

LOUISIANA AGRICULTURAL FINANCE AUTHORITY (LAFA)

MINUTES

April 3, 2013

10:00 AM

Veterans Memorial Auditorium

5825 Florida Boulevard

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) Commissioner Mike Strain at 10:07 AM.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Melanie Tullier.

Present: Commissioner Strain, Ted Gauthier, William “Skip” Hawkins, Richard Muller, H. Marcell Parker, Jr., William Stutts, Calvin Viator, Wilbert “Bill” Waguespack, and Linda Zaunbrecher

Mrs. Tullier stated all members were present and there was a quorum.

Mr. René Simon recognized Senator Bret Allain and Mr. Robert Guida as advisory members of the board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Commissioner Strain asked the Authority members to review the minutes from the December 5, 2012, meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Viator to approve the minutes from the December 5, 2012, meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Waguespack, and passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mrs. Catrina Irvin presented LAFA’s Financial Statement to the board and answered any questions the members may have had.

Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Parker to accept the Financial Statements. It was seconded by Mr. Hawkins, and passed unanimously.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

- Mr. Rudesill updated the members on the status of the hardening of the main building. He stated that the project is 99.9% complete.
- Mr. Rudesill updated the members on the sewerage upgrade at Indian Creek. He is currently waiting on the engineer to develop a list of what supplies are needed. Once the list is developed, it will be put up for bid. Work on the project is planned to begin in September.
- Mr. Simon updated the board on South Louisiana Rail Facility. One hundred and ten cars of rice were moved through the facility this year.
- Mr. Simon updated the board on Andean Chemical's lease with LAFA. Andean Chemical has extended their lease for an additional month at \$40,000/month.

OLD BUSINESS

Oral Presentation for Marketing Strategy for Lacassine Syrup Mill

Mr. Bob Saunders came before the board on behalf of Counsel RB Capital, Aaron Equipment Co., and Becker Iron & Metal to present his company's proposal and answer questions that the board had regarding his proposal.

Mr. Alvin Rotenburg came before the board on behalf of Louisiana Chemical Equipment Co., L.L.C. to present his company's proposal and answer questions that the board had regarding his proposal.

After a lengthy discussion by the board members, William Hawkins made a motion to recommend Louisiana Chemical Equipment Co., L.L.C. to Commissioner Strain. Calvin Viator seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. Commissioner Strain abstained from the vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Property Transfer of Roseland Saw Mill to Louisiana National Guard in Exchange of 57 Acres in St. Tammany Parish

Mr. Simon updated the board on the current status of the negotiations with Louisiana National Guard. Calvin Viator made a motion to allow Commissioner Strain to sell the equipment that is currently located at the Roseland Saw Mill, and continue negotiations with the Louisiana National Guard. Mr. Waguespack seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Annual Completion of the Tier 2.1 Personal Financial Disclosure Statement

Mr. Simon reminded the board that the Louisiana Board of Ethics' annual Tier 2.1 Personal Financial Disclosure Statement is due by May 15, 2013. It must be completed by each board member.

Delinquent Payments Owed to LAFA from Louisiana Farm and Agribusiness Loan and Grant Recovery Program Recipients

Mrs. Zaunbrecher made a motion to turn all delinquent files over to Office of Community Development for collection ten days from the board meeting. Mr. Parker seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Simon welcomed Ashley Dupree as the LAFA Attorney.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Stutts to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Hawkins and approved unanimously.

FINAL